

Custom Static Blocks

for Magento 2



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Custom Static Blocks extension helps managing customizable content within the store:

- Supports banners, video, CMS blocks, and widgets;
- Blocks can be displayed to specific customer groups;
- Block display schedule;
- Multiple product page sharing.

The extension allows choosing from a number of custom positions when placing CMS blocks. Custom positions cover most of the product and category pages.

Custom Static Blocks extension comes with flexible block scheduling options, including odd and even days, day of week, business week, and weekend.

Reference table

CMS – content management system.

Getting around

Custom Static Blocks extension is ready for work right after installation.

The extension can be found at **Content > Custom Static Blocks by aheadWorks > Manage Blocks**.

The screenshot shows the 'Manage Blocks' interface. At the top, there is a 'Manage Blocks' dropdown menu and a 'Create New Block' button. Below this, there are controls for 'Filters', 'Default View', and 'Columns'. A summary bar indicates '4 records found' and '20 per page'. The main table has the following data:

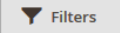
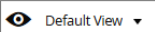
ID	Name	Customer Groups	Status	Where to Display	Position	Static Blocks	Show
1	Arttest1	NOT LOGGED IN, General, Wholesale, Retailer	Enable	Product Pages	Content top	Footer Links Block	Every day

Manage Blocks screen is the management center of the extension. From here store administrator can:

- Create new blocks;
- Enable/disable/delete existing blocks;
- Click the block to proceed to the block editing page.

Store administrator may also adjust the look and feel of **Manage Blocks** screen to match his workflow:

- button allows enabling/disabling grid columns;

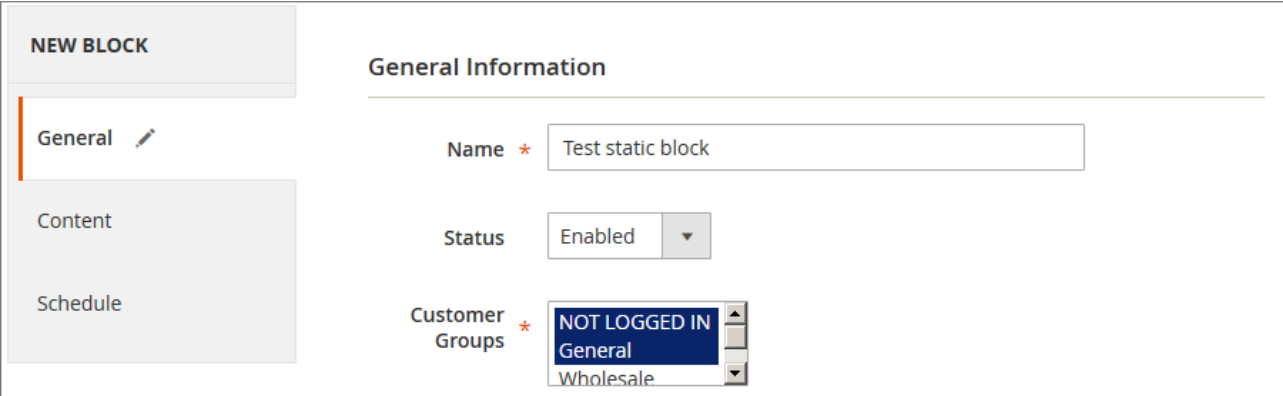
-  button allows searching for the custom blocks matching a set of attributes;
-  button allows saving a number of custom grid views to switch between depending on the current task.

That is all for the Custom Static Blocks backend pages. The extension does not have general settings as all the blocks are configured separately.

Creating custom static block

Click  button at the Manage Blocks screen to create a new custom block.

General



The screenshot shows the 'NEW BLOCK' form with the 'General Information' section expanded. On the left, there is a sidebar with three tabs: 'General' (selected), 'Content', and 'Schedule'. The 'General Information' section contains the following fields:

- Name ***: A text input field containing 'Test static block'.
- Status**: A dropdown menu set to 'Enabled'.
- Customer Groups ***: A dropdown menu with 'General' selected. A blue box above the dropdown reads 'NOT LOGGED IN'.

In the **General** section of the new static block page administrator may define where and how the block will be displayed. The screen offers following settings:

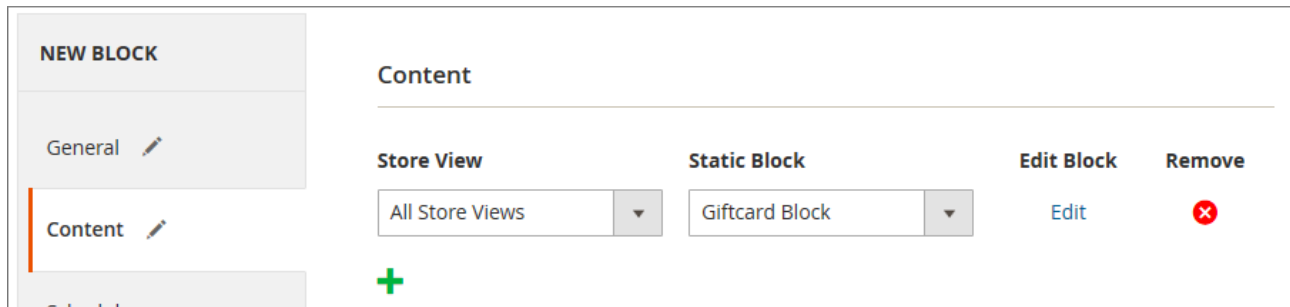
- **Name** – the name of the static block for internal identification purposes;
- **Status** – the status of the block: enabled/disabled;
- **Customer Groups** – customer groups the block will be displayed for;
- **Where to Display** – what page types the block will be displayed at:
 - *Home Page;*
 - *Product Pages;*
 - *Catalog Pages;*
 - *Shopping Cart;*
 - *Checkout.*
- **Position** – the position on the page where the block will be displayed:
 - *Sidebar top;*
 - *Sidebar bottom;*
 - *Content top;*
 - *Page bottom;*
 - *Menu Top;*
 - *Menu Bottom.*

- **Conditions** – the conditions for selecting exact pages to display the block (e.g.: product attributes, category). Settings options change depending on what’s been chosen in **Where to Display** field.

This covers the placement aspects of the Custom Static Blocks.



Content

When done with the **General** section click **Content** in the navigation menu on the left:



At the **Content** section of the new static block page administrator may define static block's content.

The content is defined by the CMS blocks available at the store. Before adding a static block content, make sure appropriate CMS block is created under **Content > Elements > Blocks**.

- To add another content option to the static block click  button;
- In the content line specify the **Store View** for the CMS block to be displayed at;
- Select appropriate CMS block in the Static Block dropdown (CMS block may be edited on the spot if necessary);
- Click  one more time if you want to add another CMS block.

If two or more CMS blocks have been added to the static block content, ALL of them be displayed simultaneously (one after another, in the order they have been added).

Provided **Store View** setting is adjusted properly, this can prove useful for managing a single static block when dealing with store views of different language.

For example:

Let’s say there are two store views: English and German.

Two CMS blocks with the content of corresponding languages may be added. One set to an English store view and another one to German.

Thus the same General and Scheduling options are shared between two CMS blocks without creating several Custom Static Blocks.

Schedule

The final step of configuring the Custom Static Block is the **Schedule** section. From here an administrator may set the block to be displayed at specific times or leave the fields empty and turn the block on and off manually, using enable/disable back at **General** settings.

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a new block. On the left, a sidebar lists 'General', 'Content', and 'Schedule' (which is highlighted). The main area is titled 'NEW BLOCK' and is divided into two sections: 'Display Block' and 'Schedule Pattern'.
 In the 'Display Block' section, there are two date fields: 'From Date' and 'To Date', each with a calendar icon to its right.
 In the 'Schedule Pattern' section, there is a 'Show' dropdown menu currently set to 'Every day'. Below this are two time range fields: 'From Time' and 'To Time'. Each time field consists of three dropdown menus for hours, minutes, and seconds, separated by colons.

The section is split in two: **Display Block** – defines starting date and total duration of block display; **Schedule Pattern** – defines which schedule/rotation pattern will be used during the **Display Block** period.

For example:

- In the **Display Block** section the block has been configured to be displayed from January 1st to January 30th;
- In the **Schedule Patterns** a **From Monday to Friday** pattern is selected;
- In the **From/To Time** field the time is set to 8:00 – 13:00.

On these conditions the block will be displayed from January 1st to January 30th on business days only: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 8:00 to 13:00.

Such settings may prove useful if different shopping patterns are observed on business days and during the weekend and thus have to be approached separately.

For an in-depth look, visit Custom Static Blocks demo store at the extension's [product page](#).

Feel free to contact our support team with any questions:

[Submit a help desk ticket](#)

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